

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of market basket bidding for surplus merchandise comprising:
soliciting bids for a plurality of lots, each lot having a comparison value;
receiving a plurality of bids on combinations of the lots from a plurality of buyers, wherein each buyer is associated with its own combination of lots that are bid on by that particular buyer and wherein there is at least one lot receiving bids from more than one buyer being an overlap portion, and wherein a first one of the combinations includes a lot that is not present in a second one of the combinations; ~~[[and]]~~
adjusting a parameter value associated with a buyer in the plurality of buyers, wherein the adjusting is based at least in part on said buyer having bid on a particular lot, the act of which bidding on said particular lot has been designated by the seller as triggering a discount; and
awarding the overlap portion to a winning buyer, the winning buyer having submitted a bid on a combination that includes the overlap portion,
wherein the bid submitted by the winning buyer has a parameter having a higher parameter value than other parameters calculated from bids from other buyers, ~~the parameter being a percentage over a total comparison value for the combination.~~
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the soliciting comprises:
identifying at least one of goods and services to be purchased.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the soliciting comprises:
providing a list price and a minimum purchase price for each lot to the buyer.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving comprises:
selecting, by the buyer, the combination of lots desired; and
offering a price for the combination of lots.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the awarding comprises:
dividing the bid on the combination by the total comparison value;

determining effective multipliers; and
comparing the effective multipliers of buyers competing for the overlap portions.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the awarding comprises:
allotting the lots in the combination not included in the overlap portion to the buyer bidding on the lots.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising:
requiring the buyers to purchase all of the lots awarded.
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
notifying buyers bidding on the overlap portion; and
allowing the buyers to raise the bid on at least one of the overlap portion, at least one lot in the overlap portion, and the combination.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the awarding comprises:
adjusting the parameter for combinations having at least one of a larger volume of lots, a larger dollar volume, and specified lots.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
offering a discount on one lot if the buyer bids on another lot.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the soliciting comprises:
multiplying the comparison value by a factor to calculate a modified cost; and
providing the modified cost to the buyers.
12. (Currently amended) A method of market basket bidding for surplus merchandise comprising:
soliciting bids for a plurality of lots, each lot having a comparison value and a minimum purchase price;
receiving a plurality of bids on combinations of the lots from a plurality of buyers, wherein each buyer is associated with its own combination of lots that are bid on by that particular buyer and wherein there is at least one lot receiving bids from more than one buyer

being an overlap portion, and wherein a first one of the combinations includes a lot that is not present in a second one of the combinations;

notifying the buyers bidding on the overlap portion;

allowing the buyers to raise bids on at least one of the overlap portion, at least one lot in the overlap portion, and the combination;

adjusting a parameter value associated with a buyer in the plurality of buyers, wherein the adjusting is based at least in part on said buyer having bid on a particular lot, the act of which bidding on said particular lot has been designated by the seller as triggering a discount;

awarding the overlap portion to a winning buyer, the winning buyer having submitted a bid on a combination that includes the overlap portion, wherein the bid submitted by the winning buyer has a parameter having a higher parameter value than other parameters calculated from bids from other buyers, ~~the parameter being a percentage over a total comparison value for the combination;~~

allotting the lots in the combinations not included in the overlap portion to the buyers bidding on the lots; and

requiring the buyers to purchase all of the lots allotted and awarded.

13. (Currently amended) A system for market basket bidding for surplus merchandise comprising:

a database for receiving and storing a plurality of bids for combinations of lots selected by a plurality of buyers and comparison values for the lots, wherein each buyer is associated with its own combination of lots that are bid on by that particular buyer and wherein there is at least one lot receiving bids from more than one buyer being an overlap portion, and wherein a first one of the combinations includes a lot that is not present in a second one of the combinations; and

~~software for a processor configured to:~~

adjust a parameter value associated with a buyer in the plurality of buyers, wherein the adjusting is based at least in part on said buyer having bid on a particular lot, the act of which bidding on said particular lot has been designated by the seller as triggering a discount; and

award[[ing]] the overlap portion to a winning buyer having submitted a bid on a combination that includes the overlap portion, the bid submitted by the winning buyer having a parameter with a higher parameter value than other parameters calculated from

bids from other buyers, ~~the parameter being a percentage over a total comparison value for the combination.~~

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the parameter comprises an adjustment for at least one of a larger volume of lots, a larger dollar volume, and specified lots.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the lots comprise at least one of goods and services.

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13 wherein the ~~software divides~~ processor is configured to divide each bid by the total comparison value, determine[[s]] effective multipliers, and compare[[s]] the effective multipliers of the buyers competing for the overlap portions.

17. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the database comprises a minimum purchase price for each lot.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13 wherein the ~~software~~ processor is configured to allot[[s]] the lots in the combination not included in the overlap portion to the buyer bidding on the lots.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the buyer purchases the lots awarded and allotted.

20. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the comparison value comprises at least one of a list price, a purchase price, and a depreciated cost.

21. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the comparison value comprises a cost multiplied by a factor.

22. (Currently amended) A computer program product ~~machine readable medium~~ for market basket bidding for surplus merchandise, ~~the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and~~ comprising computer instructions for:

soliciting bids for a plurality of lots, each lot having a comparison value;
~~a first machine readable code that receives~~ receiving a plurality of bids [[for]] on
combinations of the lots ~~from~~ selected by a plurality of buyers, wherein each buyer is associated with its own combination of lots that are bid on by that particular buyer and wherein there is at

least one lot receiving bids from more than one buyer being an overlap portion, and wherein a first one of the combinations includes a lot that is not present in a second one of the combinations;

~~— a second machine-readable code that stores comparison values and minimum purchase prices for the lots; and~~

~~adjusting a parameter value associated with a buyer in the plurality of buyers, wherein the adjusting is based at least in part on said buyer having bid on a particular lot, the act of which bidding on said particular lot has been designated by the seller as triggering a discount; and~~

~~a third machine-readable code that awards awarding the overlap portion to a winning buyer, the winning buyer having submitted a bid on a combination that includes the overlap portion, the bid submitted by the winning buyer having a parameter with a higher parameter value than other parameters calculated from bids from other buyers, the parameter being a percentage over a total comparison value for the combination.~~

23. (Currently amended) The ~~machine-readable medium~~ computer program product of claim 22 wherein the parameter comprises an adjustment for at least one of a larger volume of lots, a larger dollar volume, and specified lots.

24. (Currently amended) The ~~machine-readable medium~~ computer program product of claim 22 wherein ~~the third machine-readable code divides~~ awarding includes dividing each bid by [(the)] a total list price, ~~determines~~ determining effective multipliers, and ~~compares~~ comparing the effective multipliers of the buyers competing for the overlap portions.

25. (Currently amended) The ~~machine-readable medium~~ computer program product of claim 22 ~~wherein the third machine-readable code allots~~ further comprising computer instructions for allotting the lots in the combination not included in the overlap portion to the buyer bidding on the lots.

26. (Currently amended) The ~~machine-readable medium~~ computer program product of claim 25 wherein the buyer purchases the lots awarded and allotted.

27. (Currently amended) The ~~machine-readable medium~~ computer program product of claim 22 wherein the comparison value comprises at least one of a list price, a purchase price, and a depreciated cost.

28. (Currently amended) The ~~machine-readable medium~~ computer program product of claim 22 wherein the comparison value comprises a cost multiplied by a factor.